

RAVALLI COUNTY AIRPORT ADVISORY BOARD

December 3, 2008

The Ravalli County Airport Advisory Board met on this date at in the County Commissioner's meeting room.

Attending were: Dave Hedditch, Chairman; Fred Hasskamp, Vice-chairman; Tex Irwin, Treasurer; Judith Stewart, Secretary; Carl Fox, Jim Trowbridge, Frank Kucera, Phil Connelly.

Others attending: Page Gough, Airport Manager; John McKee, Forest Service; William Stewart, Willow Aviation; David Beckett, Hamilton Aviation; Laurie Kelly, Vet; Kristine Komar, BRCHT; Chuck Roubik, retired; M. Jorgensen, Steve Wolters; North Star Aviation; and Wendy Beye, Flights of Fantasy.

Dave Hedditch, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 2 p.m. Members welcomed our newest member, Phil Connelly, to the board. Phil stated he wanted to serve on the board as he felt the airport was an important asset to the county. He is retired and has served on other boards in the county.

MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 5, 2008 MEETING: The November 5th minutes were approved as presented.

AIRPORT MANAGER'S REPORT: Page gave the following report:

- ❖ Still waiting for the Road Department to gravel the parking lot between the Forest Service and Hamilton Aviation.
- ❖ Asked for approval of airport signage. *A motion was made and seconded to approve Page's purchase of signage presented for the airport from the Department of Corrections. All in favor, the motion carried unanimously. Cost will be \$400.*
- ❖ The Commissioner's did purchase Cris Mills lease back for site 300.
- ❖ Kathleen requested that North Star submit new containment plans soon. They are running on a temporary plan now. It is still in the air as to whether the SEAT base was affected.
- ❖ Greg Soul's lease has been cancelled. Page got in touch with him and Mr. Soul thought the lease had already been cancelled.
- ❖ The beacon is out again. Peccia reported it will cost \$40,000 to replace it. Page feels if he did it the cost would be around \$18,000. A lengthy discussion occurred with regards to the BIG difference between Peccia and Page's amount. It was decided to explore it further to see if it can be done cheaper and still meet FAA standards.
- ❖ A new lease (site 534) is ready for approval. This is a new lease for Hamilton Aviation's self-service fuel station. It contains language as the old lease. *A motion was made and seconded to recommend the Commissioners approve the lease for site 534 for a self-service fuel station for Hamilton Aviation. All in favor, the motion passed unanimously.*
- ❖ A meeting between Page, Carl, Tex, Hamilton Aviation and North Star reached no settlement on parking at the airport. Kathleen has suggested they have a Human Relations staff that will be asked to speak with the FBO's and see if kind of solution is possible. This staff has worked with other airports that have this problem and been successful. Dave would like the Advisory Board and the FBO's to come up with a mutual agreement so lawyers, etc. do not get involved. This is a BIG dilemma.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Tex presented members with a 6-month budget. This budget is attached to these minutes. With the county cuts, our budget looks excellent. We are either right on target at six months or underspent. Concerns were raised with regards to late fees. Seems Page gets the bills submitted on time, but the county is late paying them and thus, a late fee is charged to our account.

CHAIRMAN/MEMBER DISCUSSION:

- ❖ Dave reported Max and his lawyer are challenging the residence portion of his lease in case he sells the hangar café. It seems if the FAA requires no residences for funding, it should be settled. His old lease did not have a residence listed. Dave has talked to his ex-wife and she sent Dave a detailed copy of the appraisal that was included in the divorce.
- ❖ The new snow removal tractor has arrived. The snow blower attachment should be here December 19th.
- ❖ The EA has been entered into record. There will be a public hearing January 7th to make comments and then written comments will be taken until February 6th. After that Morrison and Merle will address all comments, send to FAA for approval and then submit to the Commissioner's.
- ❖ It is time to elect officers: Dave stated he would take nominations. Nominated were: Dave Hedditch, Chairman; Fred Hasskamp, Vice-Chairman; Carl Fox, Treasurer and Judith Stewart, Secretary. As there were no other nominations for officer positions, those nominated were elected.
- ❖ Dave asked for any comments from the floor: Wendy Beye from the Safety Foundation asked if the budget included the \$3,000 that the Commissioner's promised the Foundation they would put in the budget each year to pay for the loan the Foundation took out to pay the Montana Preservation Historical Society. The Foundation agreed to pay the interest on the loan. Page stated it was not in the budget but was included in different paperwork. Wendy then asked if it would be possible for the Commissioner's to pay down the loan with the funds so the interest would be reduced. Currently the Foundation is paying the interest at \$1200 a year. Dave stated he thought this could be arranged. Page will look into this.
- ❖ Kris Komar from the BRCHT stated that two new county extension agents have shown an interest in partnering with them on the Leonardi property.
- ❖ Wendy also asked the Board if the Pilot's Association could get an Open House arranged to speak to questions on the EA would they be available. Members stated they would be glad to help.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting will be January 7th at 2 p.m. in the Commissioner's meeting room.

Meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

Key to Initials used in Minutes:

BRCHT: Bitter Root Cultural Heritage Trust

Respectfully submitted:

Judith Stewart, Secretary